[8th August 1946

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether it is a fact that while Government have been asking local bodies to submit schemes for the expansion of elementary education, they are at the same time, asking the local bodies to close down the schools that are already in existence? Does not the Hon. Minister see some inconsistency in the policy of the Government?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—" The presumption of the hon. Member is incorrect. The answer to clause (j) is 'the answer is in the negative'."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that there is a Government circular to the district boards, which I have seen, asking them to prepare a scheme for the expansion of elementary education?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The present Government?"

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Yes, Sir, after the Minister has taken charge."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—" I have nothing more to add to the information I have already given."

Admissions into Government Colleges in the Province.

* 22 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether selection committees have been constituted to regulate admission into Government Colleges in the Province;

(b) if the selection committees do not exist and if Principals have been empowered to make admissions, whether any specific instructions have been issued to regulate admissions either on grounds of merit or communities or both;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative what those instructions are;

(d) who is the authority competent to alter these instructions and scrutinise if they are being properly carried out; and

(e) whether the Government have under consideration any fresh proposals for regulating admissions into their Colleges?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—

"(a) There are at present no selection committees to regulate admission into Government colleges. The question is under consideration.

"(b) & (c) Copies[a] of G.Os. No. 1435, Education, dated 1st August 1940, No. 960, Education, dated 14th March 1942 and No. 997, Education, dated 22nd July 1946, are placed on the table.

"In connexion with admissions to the Engineering Colleges and Medical Colleges in 1946–47, the Government directed that provisionally for this year, 20 per cent of the total number of seats should be filled by students selected on merit, and that 80 per cent should be regulated by the orders in the Government Orders referred to.

---

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 248–249 infra.

"(*d*) In respect of admissions into Engineering Colleges, the Director of Public Instruction submits to Government every year a report so that the Government may satisfy themselves that the instructions issued by them are observed. Such reports are not being received in respect of the Arts Colleges. But, of course, any complaints in the matter will be gone into by Government.

"(*e*) The answer is in the negative."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I know, Sir, why such reports are not called for from the Principals of Arts Colleges when they too are required to follow certain principles laid down by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—"Because the Government thought it unnecessary to change the rules."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"I find from the annexure to the answer given by the Hon. Minister that there is no reference to merit except that he intimated to the Council that in this year merit has been introduced. Otherwise, are the Principals of Colleges free to admit pupils as they like if only they bear in mind the principle of linguistic representation?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—"No, Sir, I invite the hon. Member's attention to G.O. No. 1435, dated 1st August 1945, which reads as follows :—

'The Principals of Government Colleges are requested, while making selections for admission to all classes in their Colleges, to exercise the greatest care in seeing that due representation is given to Non-Brahmans, to all minority communities, to Muhammadans, to Scheduled Classes and to women. The fact that candidates from backward communities do not possess equally high marks as candidates from forward communities should not stand in the way of deserving applicants from such communities being given due consideration. In the case, for example, of the Scheduled Classes and of Muslim women, very few of whom ever reach the collegiate standard, special consideration should be shown. In cases of doubt, the Principals of Colleges may, if they consider it necessary, refer the cases to the Director of Public Instruction for decision'."

K. T. M. AHMAD IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"The Hon. Minister for Education said that due representation was given to all communities. Then, may I know where is the necessity for setting apart 20 per cent for merit?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—"The necessity is for merit."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Does not the Hon. Minister for Education think that those who are ordinarily selected do not have merit?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—"There are various kinds of merit. Here what is considered as merit is by way of marks in examinations."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Does he think that marks is the sole test for admission?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—"It is by no means the sole test, but in the absence of any

[8th August 1946

other test which can be substituted in its place, the Government have no option in the matter."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"May I know the object of the extension of the principle of merit this year and that too provisionally?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—"I have nothing more to add to what I have said."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"May I ask whether the Hon. Minister will give us some statistics as to how the admissions have been affected by the introduction of the principle of merit, how many Muslims, Brahmans, Non-Brahmans, Indian Christians, and Scheduled Classes have been admitted on the basis of merit and how many have been admitted otherwise than on merit."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—"The number of admissions on the basis of merit is 20 per cent. The total selected is 69, of which Brahmans are 57, Non-Brahmans 8, Muhammadans 2, Christians 2, and Scheduled Classes nil. This is for the Engineering College."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Even in the previous years when the question of merit was not considered, candidates with only first-class qualifications had been selected."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—"No, Sir. It was not always the case that first-class qualifications were required."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Generally?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—"I am not able to say that."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I think the Hon. Minister will agree with me that the object of the selection of communities on the principle of merit is obvious."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—"It is a matter of opinion."

10-45 a.m. DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Since several heads are better than one and since no great amount of consideration is necessary to revive Selection Committees, will the Hon. the Minister for Education see his way to revive Selection Committees? I believe he knows that these Committees were doing just and fair work."

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :—"It has been replied to in the answer to clause (*a*); the question is under consideration."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that if we refuse to give opportunity for merit, we lose the chance of getting experts in our country and have to depend upon experts from foreign countries?"

8th August 1946]

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does it arise out of the question under discussion ; I fear it does not."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Is it a fact that those students who have been selected in the ordinary course without reference to so-called merit, have been found to be inefficient and unfit for their work?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :— " No."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" On what consideration, Sir, was the merit percentage fixed? Why only 20 per cent and not $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :— " It is just an idea, Sir. There is nothing very logical about it."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, why not cent per cent be set apart for merit alone?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :— " If the hon. Member is serious about it, it will be considered."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I would like to inform the Hon. Minister that we want that all sections of the people should be given opportunities of education, both in the Arts and professional colleges and having regard to that, I would like to ask him whether he would see that weightage is given wherever necessary in view of prevalent inequalities until those inequalities are set right?"

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Am I right in assuming, Sir, that the merit percentage is applicable to the Engineering College only?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :— " As far as I am concerned, only the Engineering College."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I take it, Sir, that with regard to admission to other colleges, the instructions which the Hon. the Minister read out hold good?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIAR :— " Yes."

Permits for the sale of motor cars.

* 23 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the sale of motor cars is confined to permit-holders only ;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, who is the competent authority to issue the permits;

(*c*) whether any rules have been framed to govern the issue of those permits ;

(*d*) what is the number of permits issued so far and the names of permit-holders ;